

Coastal Management Program Funding and Grants Program

ICMP Grants Program

The primary goal of the ICMP Grants Program is to assist in the preservation, protection, and enhancement of Illinois' Lake Michigan coastal resources. An objective of the ICMP will be to facilitate cooperation and coordination among state and local units of governments, regional agencies, interest groups, and stakeholders. The IDNR will make available a portion of 306/306A funding through the ICMP Grants Program. To support eligible organizations and assist in funding studies and projects which are consistent with ICMP policies, goals, and objectives. The ICMP will provide an annual list of priority areas and needs.

The ICMP Grants Program will provide assistance to coastal communities to plan for balanced growth and sustainability, and for watershed management to address coastal nonpoint pollution. Priority will be given to projects which encourage communities to adopt comprehensive plans to protect coastal resources. The ICMP will also support projects addressing hazard mitigation, natural resource protection or restoration, economic viability, or projects which enhance public access. Funding may also be available to provide assistance for research, data collection, education or public awareness.

Recipients Eligible for ICMP Grants

IDNR may allocate a portion of Section 306 and 306A grant funds to the following recipients for projects or activities consistent with ICMP priorities and policies:

- Units of local government, including municipalities, townships, counties, villages and water reclamation districts
- Area-wide agencies, including county and regional planning agencies designated under section 204 of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966
- State agencies
- Colleges, universities and other institutions of higher learning
- Park districts, conservancy districts, school districts and port authorities
- Basin commissions
- Nonprofit organizations that are 501(c)(3) organizations and have been nominated to undertake the project by one of the other eligible entities listed above. Nonprofit organizations are only eligible for non-construction and non-acquisition projects.

Examples of Eligible Projects

- Coastal Hazard Mitigation
- Public Access
- Nonpoint Source Pollution Control
- Coastal Wetland Protection
- Government Coordination and Decision Making
- Historic Preservation
- Coastal Resource Research and Data Collection
- Community Planning
- Education and Public Awareness
- Habitat Restoration
- Land Acquisition

Examples of Ineligible Projects

- Beach re-nourishment
- Restroom facilities
- Large-scale hard structure erosion control projects
- Maintenance
- General recreational facilities such as playgrounds or ball fields
- Road and parking lot construction
- Water and sewer line construction
- Wetland or habitat restoration required as a permit condition or mitigation program
- Cleanup of contaminated sites required as a permit or regulatory action
- Improvements to private property or for private enterprises

Identifying Annual Priority Areas for the ICMP Grants Program

The ICMP will be a dynamic program reflecting the continually changing coastal environment. Project evaluation criteria will be weighted to provide incentives for projects addressing the ICMP priority issues and emphasis areas. The following approach will be taken to identify these priority needs and emphasis areas:

- The Coastal Advisory Group (CAG) will identify priority issues and emphasis areas. The CAG will also make recommendations on direction and implementation of the ICMP.
- The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will review and comment on the recommendations received from the CAG. The TAC will also provide recommendations on priority issues and emphasis areas. Final approval on projects will be made by the IDNR Director.